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From: Walter C. Linder

Telephone Number: 612/766-8801

To: KRAMER, Nicole R
Art Unit: 3762

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Patent & Trademark Office, Technology Center 3700

Inventor(s): JOHN HOEK VANDEN et al.

Examiner: KRAMER, Nicole R

Appln. No.: 10/663,623

Group Art Unit: 3762

Filing Date: September 16, 2003

Title: APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR APPLYING
CARDIAC SUPPORT
DEVICE

Docket No. 59013-331735

Document attached: Response to Restriction Requirement (1 page)

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MAR 21 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Inventor(s): JOHN HOEK VANDEN et al. | Examiner: KRAMER, Nicole R |
| Appln. No.: 10/663,623 | Group Art Unit: 3762 |
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Walter C. Linder

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 23, 2006, in which all pending claims 1-24 were subject to restriction. In particular, the position was taken that the application includes claims directed to two distinct inventions: Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a method of applying a cardiac support device to a heart, and Group II, claims 19-24, drawn to a device for placing a cardiac support jacket onto a heart.

By this response, the Applicant elects to prosecute method claims 1-18 in this application. This election is made without traverse.

Examination of the application is requested. No fee is believed to be necessary in connection with this response. Should an extension of time, or any fee be required, the applicant requests that this action be undertaken and our Deposit Account No. 06-0029 be charged for the fee.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOHN HOEK VANDEN et al.

By:

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Dated: March 21, 2006
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